

these species, therefore none will be affected.

Authorization

As a result of these determinations, NMFS has issued an IHA to Quintillion for the take of marine mammals, by Level B harassment, incidental to conducting subsea cable-laying operations and maintenance work in the Bering, Chukchi, and Beaufort seas during the 2017 open-water season, provided the previously mentioned mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are incorporated.

Dated: August 10, 2017.

Donna S. Wieting,

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2017-17305 Filed 8-15-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Fishermen's Contingency Fund

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before October 16, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at pracomments@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instruments and instructions should be directed to Paul Marx, Chief, Financial Services Division, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service, (301) 427-8752 or paul.marx@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This request is for extension of a currently approved information

collection. United States (U.S.) commercial fishermen may file claims for compensation for losses of, or damage to, fishing gear or vessels, plus 50 percent of resulting economic losses, attributable to oil and gas activities on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf. To obtain compensation, applicants must comply with requirements set forth in 50 CFR part 296.

The requirements include a "report" within 15 days of the date the vessel first returns to port after the casualty incident to gain a presumption of eligible causation, and an "application" within 90 days of when the applicant first became aware of the loss and/or damage.

The report is NOAA Form 88-166 and it requests identifying information such as: Respondent's name; address; social security number; and casualty location. The information in the report is usually completed by NOAA during a telephone call with the respondent.

The application is NOAA Form 88-164 and it requires the respondent to provide information on the property and economic losses and/or damages including type of damage; purchase date and price of lost/damaged gear; and income from recent fishing trips. It also includes an affidavit by which the applicant attests to the truthfulness of the claim.

II. Method of Collection

Respondents may telephone NOAA and provide the information for the report verbally or submit a paper or electronic report. Respondents have a choice of either electronic or paper forms for the application.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648-0082.

Form Number: NOAA Forms 88-164, 88-166.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 20.

Estimated Time per Response: 15 minutes for a report and 7 hours, 45 minutes for an application.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 160.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$500 in recordkeeping/filing costs.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including

whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: August 11, 2017.

Sarah Brabson,

NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2017-17296 Filed 8-15-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: Socioeconomics of Users and Non Users of Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary.

OMB Control Number: 0648-0625.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular (reinstatement with changes of a previously approved information collection).

Number of Respondents: 1,440.

Average Hours per Response: 30 minutes.

Burden Hours: 293.

Needs and Uses: This request is for a reinstatement, with changes, of a previous information collection.

NOAA, through its National Ocean Service, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, is replicating a study done in 2010-2011 on users and non-users of Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary (GRNMS) off the coast of Georgia. The study will support analysis of its current regulations to support management plan revision, which could include changes in regulations. The study will collect

information to assess recreational uses of GRNMS and surrounding areas off the coast of Georgia, demographic profiles, and attitudes on GRNMS current regulations, especially the research only area, which displaced recreational fishing. In addition, user perceptions of the conditions of GRNMS natural resources/environment will be obtained.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: One time.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

This information collection request may be viewed at reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202) 395-5806.

Dated: August 11, 2017.

Sarah Brabson,

NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2017-17295 Filed 8-15-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-NK-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO-C-2017-0031]

Performance Review Board (PRB)

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In conformance with the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, the United States Patent and Trademark Office announces the appointment of persons to serve as members of its Performance Review Board.

ADDRESSES: Director, Human Capital Management, Office of Human Resources, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Anne Mendez at (571) 272-6173.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The membership of the United States Patent and Trademark Office Performance Review Board is as follows:

Anthony P. Scardino, Chair, Acting Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Frederick W. Steckler, Vice Chair, Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Andrew H. Hirshfeld, Commissioner for Patents, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Mary Boney Denison, Commissioner for Trademarks, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Anthony P. Scardino, Chief Financial Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office

John B. Owens II, Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Sarah T. Harris, General Counsel, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Shira Perlmutter, Chief Policy Officer and Director for International Affairs, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Alternates

Sharon R. Marsh, Deputy Commissioner for Trademark Examination Policy, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Andrew I. Faile, Deputy Commissioner for Patent Operations, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Dated: August 10, 2017.

Joseph D. Matal,

Performing the Functions and Duties of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2017-17321 Filed 8-15-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Science and Technology Reinvention Laboratory (STRL) Personnel Management Demonstration Project, Department of the Air Force, Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL)

AGENCY: Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of amendment to AFRL's demonstration project plan.

SUMMARY: AFRL will implement a flexible term appointment and a flexible extended temporary promotion authority for its Scientific and Professional Positions (ST) and Senior Scientific Technical Manager (SSTM) incumbents. The need for ST and SSTM positions in particular technology areas diminishes as the emerging technology becomes more established over time and a set of trained scientists and engineers are groomed to support the new core technical competency. AFRL needs this

flexibility to better manage its ST and SSTM cadre in order to ensure critical technologies are led by high-caliber ST and SSTM incumbents.

The extended probationary period currently authorized for AFRL Science and Engineering (S&E) provides a longer period to evaluate an individual's ability to adequately contribute to the AFRL mission and coincides with the extensive Research and Development (R&D) process. That same evaluation period is needed for the SSTM cadre.

DATES: This notice may be implemented beginning on August 16, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

- AFRL: Ms. Rosalyn Jones-Byrd, Personnel Demonstration Project Manager, AFRL, 1864 4th Street, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH 45433-5209; rosalyn.jones-byrd@us.af.mil.

- DoD: Dr. Jagadeesh Pamulapati, Direct, Defense Laboratories, 4800 Mark Center Dr., Alexandria, 22350-1100; jagadeesh.pamulapati.civ@mail.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Background

This notice amends the AFRL's demonstration project plan published in the **Federal Register** on August 30, 2010 (75 FR 53076).

Section 342(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 1995, Public Law (Pub. L.) 103-337, as amended by Section 1109 of the NDAA for FY 2000, Public Law 106-65, and Section 1114 of the NDAA for FY 2001, Public Law 106-398, authorizes the Secretary of Defense (SECDEF) to conduct personnel demonstration projects at DoD laboratories designated as STRLs. All STRLs authorized by Section 1105 of the NDAA for FY 2010, Public Law 111-84, as well as any newly-designated STRLs authorized by SECDEF or future legislation, may use the provisions described in this **Federal Register** Notice (FRN). STRLs implementing this flexibility must have an approved personnel management demonstration project plan published in a FRN and shall fulfill any collective bargaining obligations.

AFRL currently has fewer ST allocations than it did in 2014, and has identified and prioritized new or emergent technical focus areas which will replace several of the current allocations as vacancies occur. ST positions within the laboratory are established for individuals to lead research in emerging technology areas and mentor young scientists and engineers to attain competence in the new technology areas. Currently AFRL